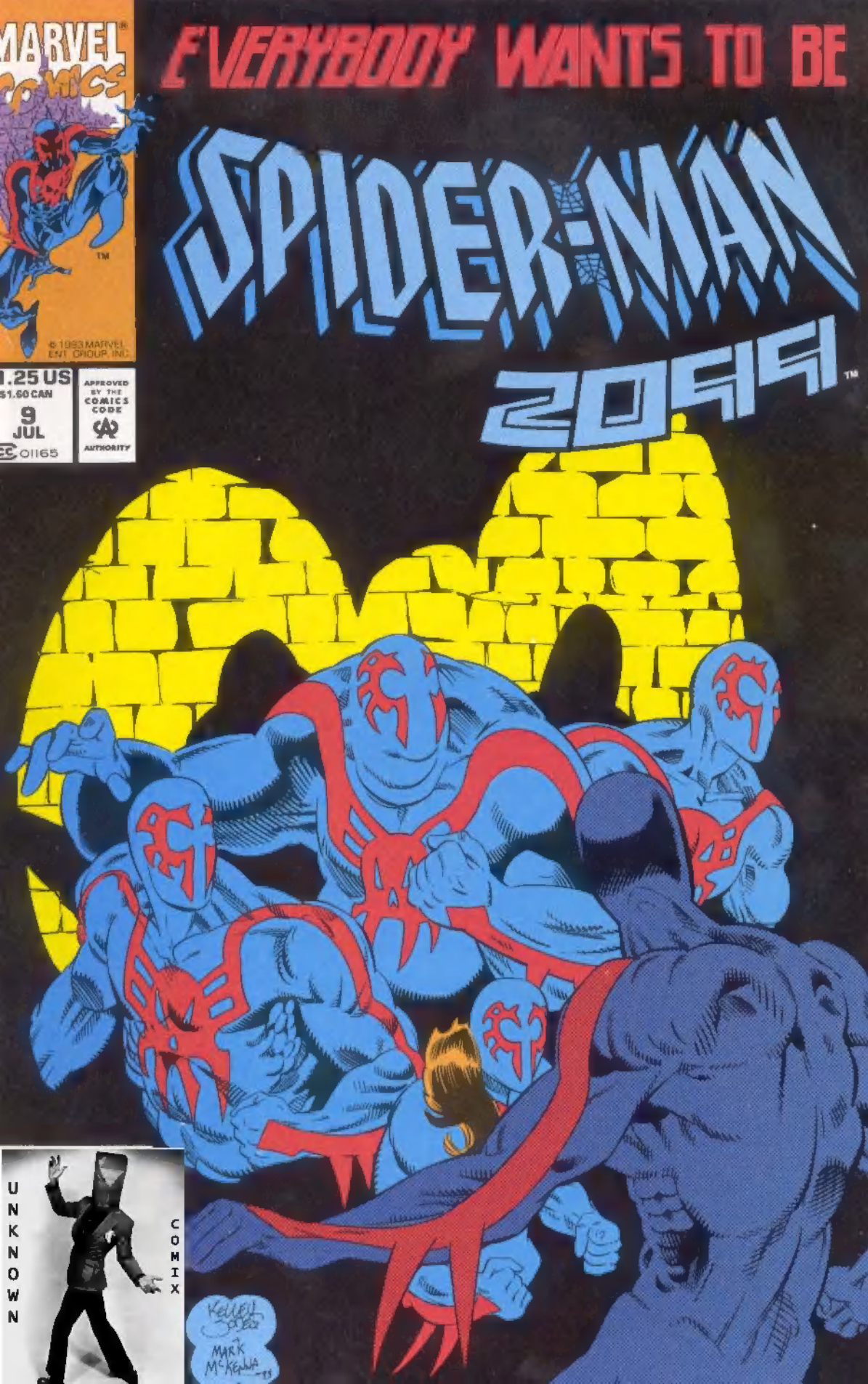
MARVEL COMICS
EVERYBODY WANTS TO BE
SPIDER-MAN
2099
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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
UNKNOWN COMIX
KELLEY JONES
MARK MCKENNA '93

THE WELLVALE HOME...
CONCHATA. IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU OUT AND ENJOYING THE FRESH AIR.
THAT LOOKS LIKE A VERY INTRIGUING PUZZLE. WOULD YOU CARE TO EXPLAIN IT TO ME?
.....
:Ahem:
SO... WHY DON'T WE PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF LAST WEEK, CONCHATA?
I WAS ASKING YOU ABOUT YOUR SONS. AND...
AAAAAAHH
MEDICS!

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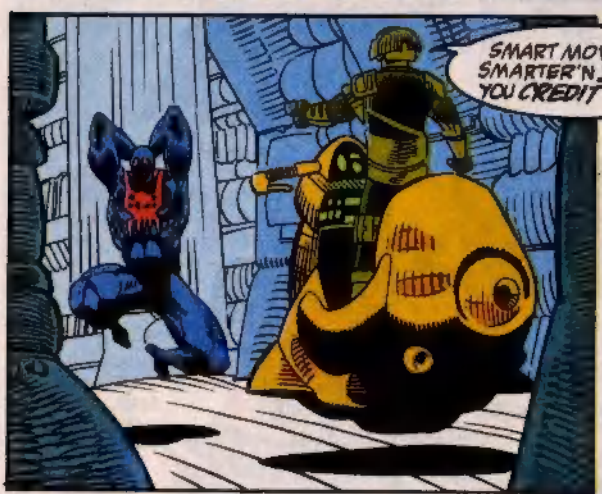
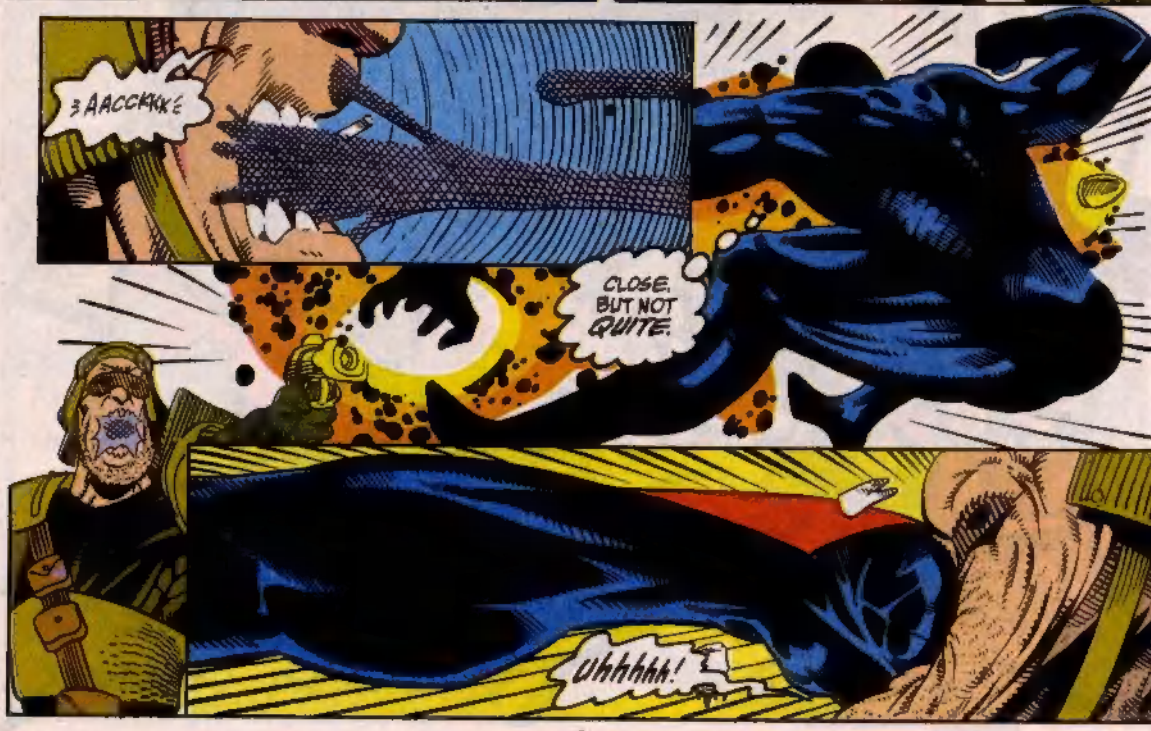
STAN LEE PRESENTS:
HOME AGAIN, HOME AGAIN
I MADE IT! I'M BACK UPTOWN AGAIN! I'M--
--HOME?
Uh-oh.
HEY! WATCH OUT, YOU NUT!
PETER DAVID
GREAT WRITER
KELLEY JONES
GUEST PENCILER
MARK McKENNA
GUEST INKER
RICK PARKER
LETTERING
STEVE BUCCELLATO
COLORIST
JOEY CAVALIERI
EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO
CHIEF

Whoooaaa!
WELL, THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN JUST MY LUCK!
AFTER SURVIVING BEING KNOCKED ALL THE WAY INTO DOWNTOWN...
...THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN A PRETTY STUPID WAY TO END UP: DECORATING THE FRONT OF A MAGLEY CAR.
...AND COMING OUT ON TOP WITH THAT VULTURE MANIAC...
I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING MORE EMBARRASSING THAN TH--
FREEZE!

EXCEPT FOR, MAYBE GETTING CAUGHT FLATFOOTED BY A PUBLIC EYE FLYBOY.
DON'T YOU SO MUCH AS TWITCH FUNNY, S-MAN. DROP DOWN WITH YOUR HANDS OVER YOUR HEAD.


SMART MOVE, BOY. SMARTER'N I GAVE YOU CREDIT FOR.

HELLO, BASE. THIS IS PUGLISI. BELIEVE IT, OR NOT, I'VE GOT...


AACCKKK!
CLOSE. BUT NOT QUITE.
Uhhhhh!

PUGLISI, SAY AGAIN. WE DID NOT COPY THE LAST OF THAT. YOU'VE GOT WHAT?
A, UH... A MAJOR CASE OF INTESTINAL CRAMPS. I THINK I'M GETTING SICK. I'M CALLING IT A DAY.
IF YOU HAVE TO. BUT THIS IS YOUR SEVENTH SICK CALL THIS YEAR, PUGLISI. DON'T EXPECT A FULL DAY'S PAY.
WELL, NOW. THIS IS LUCK. A HYPOCHONDRIAC FLYBOY.
AND MORE THAN THAT... HE LOOKS TO BE ABOUT MY SIZE.
I MIGHT JUST HAVE A SHOT AT GETTING HOME WITHOUT ANY MORE HASSLES.

DOWNTOWN...
A MAJOR FIGHT BETWEEN MY PEOPLE AND THE FREAKERS, AND YOU PICKED THAT MOMENT TO CUT AND RUN...DRAGGING ME WITH YOU!
I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU, OKAY, CASEY?
O'HARA! WHAT THE SHOCK DID YOU THINK YOU WERE DOING? HUH? WERE YOU THINKING?!
NO, IT'S NOT OKAY! I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF!
I REALLY WONDER ABOUT YOU, O'HARA. I MEAN, SOMETIMES YOU SHOW THAT YOU'VE GOT REAL POTENTIAL.
BUT OTHER TIMES...I DUNNO. MAYBE YOU TAKE MORE AFTER YOUR SNOT BROTHER, MIGUEL, THAN I THOUGHT YOU DID.
YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN HIM WHEN I WAS ESCAPING FROM ALCHEMAX. HE WAS EVERYTHING YOU SAID HE WAS...
ARROGANT, CONDESCENDING, SMUG. CARED ONLY ABOUT HIMSELF.
WELL, Y'KNOW... MAYBE HE'S NOT AS BAD AS ALL THAT.
WHAT, NOW YOU'RE DEFENDING HIM? WHAT IS IT WITH YOU TODAY, O'HARA?

YOU KNOW WHO I WAS IMPRESSED BY. THAT SPIDER-GUY.
I CAUGHT A BIT OF IT WHEN HE WAS SLUGGING IT OUT WITH THE FREAKERS, AND THEN WHEN HE WAS TAKING ON THE YULTURE BEFORE THEY GOT OUT OF SIGHT.
NOW THERE'S A GUY WITH JUICE.
YEAH, YOU'RE NOT KIDDIN', RAFF.
IT'S TAKEN A WHILE FOR IT TO SINK IN ON ME THAT HE GOT INTO ALL THIS BECAUSE HE RISKED HIS LIFE FOR ME...
...ME, A TOTAL STRANGER. HE'S A GENUINE CLASS ACT. BRAVE, GUTSY.
MAN, IF WE HAD HIM AS PART OF THE THROWBACKS, WE COULD ROCK THIS TOWN. AND I GOTTA ADMIT, I JUST LOVE A MAN IN BLACK.
ESPECIALLY WHEN HE HAS THE TIGHTEST LITTLE...
Uh...
OH, O'HARA, WIPE THAT SCOWL OFF YOUR FACE.
DON'T FEEL THREATENED BY SOME HARMLESS FANTASIZING.
I WAS JUST WONDERING WHAT HE WAS LIKE UNDER THE MASK, THAT'S ALL.
AND, HECK... I'D PROBABLY BE DISAPPOINTED IF I FOUND OUT, RIGHT?
YEAH, RIGHT.

UPTOWN...
I WONDER IF I LOOK AS BAD AS I FEEL.
FACE IS SORE. I THINK I GOT AT LEAST ONE BLACK EYE.
HOPE MY NOSE ISN'T BROKEN.
:UNNHHH:
WELL, THE HELMET'S LOOSER THAN MY MASK, THAT'S FOR SURE.
WEIGHS A TON, THOUGH.

THIS IS ONE OF THE OLD MODEL FLIERS... "BELCHERS," I THINK THEY CALLED THEM.
CLUNKY, AND NOT AS FAST OR MANEUVERABLE AS THE LATER AIRBIKES.
BUT AT LEAST IT'LL GET ME WHERE I'M GOING.. NAMELY HOME.
AND WHO IN THE WORLD IS GONNA MESS WITH A PUBLIC EYE FLYBOY?
HUH?!
WHERE'D ALL THESE OTHER FLYBOYS COME FROM?!
FINALLY..
WE'RE GONNA NAIL SPIDER-MAN!

THEY FIGURED IT OUT SOMEHOW!! ONLY HOPE...
...IS TO DROP FAST! LOSE MYSELF ■ THE..
AW, SHOCK! THEY'RE CATCHING UP! I'M DEAD! I'M--
PUGLISH! THAT'S THE KIND OF SPIRIT I'D LIKE TO SEE OUT OF YOU MORE OFTEN!
CHARGING STRAIGHT INTO A FIGHT! LEAD THE WAY TO THE MALL!
WHA...?
IS IT POSSIBLE THAT...?
IT COULDN'T BE.
REPEAT, SPIDER-MAN HAS BEEN SIGHTED AT THE LINCOLN MALL WALKABOUT. USE MINIMAL FORCE, BUT PROCEED AND APPREHEND WITH CAUTION. HE HAS A AAA-1 DANGER RATING.
APPREHEND... SPIDER-MAN?
WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND HERE?

SO, YOU WANT TO TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THESE PEOPLE YOU REPRESENT, MISS DASKALAKIS?
OHHHH... IN A BIT.
SO TELL ME, EX-SERGEANT ESTEVEZ... HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO AN INDY TOWN?
HARDLY. I SPENT MY WHOLE LIFE IN NUEVA YORK.
ARE YOU LOCALS STILL PUSHING THAT "NUEVA YORK" STUFF? IT'S ALWAYS BEEN NEW YORK, AND IT ALWAYS WILL
ULTIMATELY, THAT DOESN'T MATTER. IF AND WHEN YOU GO BACK THERE, IT'LL BE ON YOUR TERMS, NO ONE ELSE'S.
YOU CAN CALL IT NEW YORK... NUEVA YORK...
...RICOVILLE, IF YOU'VE A MIND TO.

SO FAR, ALCHEMAX HAS LEFT US ALONE. WE HAVEN'T HAD ANYTHING THEY REALLY WANTED.
BUT RECENTLY WE'VE MADE SOME MAJOR BREAKTHROUGHS IN CROSS-DIMENSIONAL QUANTUM THEORIES. IT COULD EVEN MEAN CRACKING THE LIGHT BARRIER...
YOU ARE NOW ENTERING NIGHTSHADE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED
...RECAPTURING SOME OF THE TECH THAT WAS LOST DURING THE CATASTROPHE AT THE END OF THE HEROIC AGE.
WHEN ALCHEMAX CATCHES WIND OF IT, YOU CAN BET THEY'LL TRY A HOSTILE TAKEOVER. WE HAVE TO BE READY TO DEFEND OURSELVES... AND WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN.
COUNT ME IN, MISS DASKALAKIS. AFTER WHAT THEY DID TO ME, I DON'T OWE THEM ANYTHING.
I'M GLAD YOU SAID THAT. AND, PLEASE, RICO...CALL ME ANGELA.
GOOD. I WAS BREAKING MY TONGUE ON YOUR LAST NAME.
FINAL CHANCE TO BACK OUT, RICO.
ARE YOU READY FOR THE FIRST DAY OF THE REST OF YOUR LIFE?
ANGELA, I WOULDN'T MISS IT FOR THE WORLD.

AND, BACK IN NEW YORK..
THERE HE GOES!
GAP
PUGLISI! EITHER SHOOT OR GET OUT OF THE WAY!
UH...
I'M ON HIM!
THIS IS NUTS! WHO IS THAT?!
SPATT!
HAH! HE'S HUNG UP ON THAT WEBBED AIRFOIL OF HIS! NOW WE--
GET HIM!
WAIT! LOOK!

THE PLACE IS CRAWLING WITH SPIDER-MEN!!
WHAT THE SHOCK IS GOING ON?
I HAVE THE SICK FEELING I KNOW. BUT FIRST THINGS FIRST.
EVEN FROM HERE, I CAN TELL THAT STUFF HE HAD ON HIS BACK ISN'T LIGHT BYTE CLOTH.
IF I DON'T CATCH UP WITH HIM, HE'S GOING TO BE SPIDER-SPLAT.

GET DOWN HERE, BOY! NOW!
I SAID NOW!
I'VE SEEN SPIDER-MAN IN ACTION, AND COMPARED HIM, YOU GOT THE SPEED OF CURDLED MILK.
WHO ARE YOU?
I SPREAD THE WORD OF SPIDER-MAN!
HE WILL BRING PUNISHMENT FROM ON-HIGH.
OH, YEAH?
NOT AS BAD AS THE PUNISHMENT WE'RE GONNA BRING, MR. MICRO-SUCTION-FINGERTIPS.

I AM TRANSFORMED! I AM BECOMING ONE WITH SPIDER-MAN! IT'S A MIRACLE!
THE ONLY MIRACLE AROUND HERE IS THAT YOU'RE NOT DEAD!
DID IT! CAUGHT HIM WITH A WEB STRAND.
FORTUNATELY, IT'S RESILIENT ENOUGH THAT IT DIDN'T STOP HIM TOO ABRUPTLY. OTHERWISE IT'D HAVE TORN HIS ARM OUT OF THE SOCKET.
WHAT DID YOU THINK YOU WERE DOING?! YOU COULD'VE [redacted] SHOCKIN' KILLED!
I AM A KEEPER OF THE FAITH! I AM A TRUE BELIEVER! ONCE, I WORSHIPPED THOR...
VEL 2
I... I... CREATED A WEB-LINE!
... BUT NOW I, AND OTHERS OF MY BRETHREN UNDER-STAND! WE WORSHIP SPIDER-MAN, THE TRUE WORD OF THOR ON EARTH! FACE FRONT!
LOOK, THIS ISN'T A GAME, OKAY?
GO HOME. BURN THIS OUTFIT. AND NEVER PRETEND YOU'RE SPIDER-MAN AGAIN.

YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND.
THE SPIDERITE MOVEMENT IS THE WAY OF THE FUTURE. IT...
LOOK! I'M TELLING YOU THAT--!
UH OH.
SWELL. HE GOT ME SO UPSET I FORGOT TO CONCENTRATE ON KEEPING MY TALONS DOWN.
MAYBE HE WON'T FIGURE IT OU--
OH GREAT AND POWERFUL SPIDER-MAN... MASTER OF DISGUISE, WHO MOVES MYSTERIOUS WAYS...
GRANT ME THE WISDOM TO UNDERSTAND YOUR TEACHINGS AND EMULATE YOUR GREATNESS.
LOOK, KID... TRUST ME. YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE ME. SO GO HOME AND YOU, OKAY?
WHATEVER YOU SAY, GREAT ONE.
HE CALLED ME "KID." HE LIKES ME.
Ohhhhhhhhhhhh.....
THUD

HELLO, MIGUEL.
THERE ARE FOUR MESSAGES AND A METRO EXPRESS PACKAGE FOR YOU.
EVEN WITH THE HELMET ON, YOU KNOW ME IN A SECOND. INCREDIBLE.
INSTANTANEOUS RECOGNITION IS ONE OF MY MORE ROUTINE FUNCTIONS, MIGUEL.
JUST OUT OF CURIOSITY, LYLA... IS THERE ANY CIRCUMSTANCE UNDER WHICH YOU WOULDN'T I.D. ME?
OF COURSE. IF ALL YOUR LIFE FUNCTIONS HAD STOPPED AND YOUR HANDS AND FEET WERE SEVERED [redacted] YOUR BODY...
... AND YOUR EYES WERE GOUGED OUT AND YOUR TEETH WERE BROKEN.
SWELL. DRAW ME A BATH, WOULD YA?
OR IF YOU WERE INCINERATED, THAT WOULD DO IT.
OKAY, THANKS.
YOU COULD HAVE ME UPGRADED FOR DNA SCANS.
THAT WAY, NO MATTER HOW BADLY YOU WERE MANGLED OR MUTILATED, I COULD--
I GET THE PICTURE, ALL RIGHT?!!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHOUT AT ME, MIGUEL!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO ACT LIKE I HAVE NO FEELINGS!
LYLA, YOU'RE A HOLOGRAPHIC COMPUTER AGENT. YOU DON'T HAVE FEELINGS.
TRUE. BUT I'M PROGRAMMED TO SIMULATE THEM.
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO FAKE A JEALOUS TANTRUM?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! YOU'VE BEEN ERASING ANOTHER SYSTEM! SOME BUBBLE-HEAD, WITH A BOOBER...
...MEMORY! MANUEL, I THOUGHT WE HAD SOMETHING SPECIAL!
BEAUTIFUL. GIVE YOURSELF A BEST ACTRESS AWARD.
IS MY MAKEUP READY?
YES, MANUEL.
I'D LIKE TO THANK THE ACADEMY...
ONCE THE RESTORATIVE CREAM SOAKS IN, IT SHOULD REMOVE THE BRUISES.
AND THEN I'M GOING TO SOAK FOR A YEAR.
...AND MY PROGRAMMERS, WITHOUT WHOM I'D BE NOTHING...

WHILE, AT GABE'S APARTMENT...
SPIDER-MAN THIS!
SPIDER-MAN THAT!
SPIDER-MAN SOME-OTHER-SHOCKIN'-THING!
" OH, I'M NOT TRYING TO MAKE YOU JEALOUS, O'HARA...
" BUT DOESN'T HE HAVE JUST THE CUUUTEST LITTLE..."
NYAAAARRHH!
EEEAAARR!
IT FIGURES.
IT FIGURES.
ARRRHH! IT FIGURES.
Sigh
THIS IS GABRIEL O'HARA, CUSTOMER 033AT5721-A, CALLING FOR MESSAGES.
HUH? I MEAN... REPEAT, PLEASE.
OHHHH, BOY. THAT JUST MAKES MY DAY COMPLETE.

AND...
AT LAST...
HUH?
I'VE GOT YOU WHERE I WANT YOU.
MIGUEL.
LOOK, DANA... I KNOW I'VE BEEN REAL HARD TO TRACK DOWN LATELY. BUT THERE'S A REASON.
OH, REALLY? WHAT'S THE REASON?
WHAT IS IT?
THAT'S RIGHT. WHAT IS IT?
THE REASON... IS THAT I WAS DEVELOPING A METHOD OF..
OF, UH... SHAKING THE EFFECTS OF RAPTURE. SO, UH...
... SO I WASN'T KEEPING YOU UP ON MY WHEREABOUTS, BECAUSE I'D BEEN SEEING SOME PEOPLE... WORKING SOME SHADY PLACES...
OF WHAT?
MIGUEL! YOU WEREN'T DOING ANYTHING DANGEROUS WERE YOU?

COMPARED TO THE DANGERS OF RAPTURE-ADDICTION? NO.
AND I DID IT, DANA. I BEAT IT... FOR GOOD.
YOU...YOU DID? MIGUEL, THAT'S WONDERFUL!!
THERE'S, UM... A SIDE-EFFECT OR TWO. LIKE...
...MY TEETH ARE SENSITIVE. SO IF YOU WANTED TO KISS OR SOMETHING..
DON'T WORRY I'LL BE GENTLE.
whoofff!
Ahemmm
GABRI?!
FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD, DOES ANYONE IN THIS SHOCKIN' CITY KNOCK?!
I REALLY HATE TO INTERRUPT...
...HI, DANA...
WE GOTTA GO, MIGGY. IT'S MOM.
SHE'S COLLAPSED AT THE HOME, AND SHE'S CALLING FOR US.